

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please cancel claims 1-5 and 12-14 without prejudice.**

**Please add the following claims:**

23. A polypeptide fragment of the recombinant haemopoietin receptor according to any one of claims 6-11, wherein said polypeptide fragment binds leptin.

24. The polypeptide fragment according to claim 23, comprising the amino acid sequence of Tyr26 to Asp839 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

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25. An antibody to the polypeptide fragment of claim 23.

26. An antibody to the polypeptide fragment of claim 24.

27. The method of claim 19, wherein said ligand binding portion comprises the amino acid sequence of Tyr26 to Asp839 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said ligand binding portion comprises the amino acid sequence of Tyr26 to Asp839 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

29. The method of claim 22, wherein said ligand binding portion comprises the amino acid sequence of Tyr26 to Asp839 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to add the section of cross-reference to the parent application.

Claims 1-5 and 12-14 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a continuing application.

Claims 23-29 have been added. Claims 23-24 are drawn to a polypeptide fragment of the recombinant haemopoietin receptor according to claims 6-11 wherein the fragment binds the ligand leptin. Claims 25-26 are directed to antibodies towards such ligand-binding fragment.